IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Zoghbi et al.	§	
	§	**Docket: P01492US2**
	§	**(09804681/OTA 98-81)**
Title: Chaperone-Suppression Of Ataxin-1 Aggregation and Altered Subcellular Proteasome Localization Imply Protein Misfolding in SCA1	§	**Examiner: Not yet assigned**
	§	
	§	**Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned**
	§	
	§	**Customer No. 26271**
	§	

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTS AND REMARKS

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that a Preliminary Amendment be entered as follows:

In the specification:

Page 1, before Line 5, please insert - -This application is a divisional application which claims priority to nonprovisional U.S. Patent Serial No. 09/321,916, filed May 28, 1999 and provisional U.S. Patent Serial No. 60/087,128, filed May 29, 1998.- -

In the claims:

In this divisional application, please cancel claim 2 and consider under prosecution heretofore claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and the following new claims:

11. A method of identifying a compound for the treatment of a neurodegenerative disorder, wherein said compound has chaperone activity, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a compound suspected of having said activity; and

determining whether said compound has said activity.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the method further comprises:

dispersing the compound in a pharmaceutical carrier; and

administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound in the carrier to an individual having said neurodegenerative disorder.

13. As a composition of matter, the compound obtained by the method of claim 11.

14. A pharmacologically acceptable composition comprising:

the compound obtained by the method of claim 11; and

a pharmaceutical carrier.

15. A method of screening for a compound for the treatment of a neurodegenerative disorder, comprising the steps of:

introducing a test compound into transfected cells in tissue culture, wherein said transfected cells produce protein aggregate; and

measuring the quantity of protein aggregate in said cells, wherein a test compound which decreases the quantity of protein aggregate as compared to control cells is considered the compound for the treatment of said neurodegenerative disorder.

16. The method of claim 15, further comprising:

dispersing the compound for the treatment of the neurodegenerative disorder in a pharmaceutical carrier; and

administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound in the carrier to an individual having said neurodegenerative disorder.

17. As a composition of matter, the compound obtained by the method of claim

18. A pharmacologically acceptable composition comprising:

the compound obtained by the method of claim 15; and

a pharmaceutical carrier.

19. A method of treating a patient with a neurodegenerative disorder, comprising the steps of:

preparing a compound obtained by the method of claim 15; and

administering a therapeutically effective amount of said compound to said patient.

20. A method of screening for a compound which suppresses ataxin-1 aggregation comprising the steps of:

introducing a test compound into transfected cells in tissue culture, wherein said transfected cells produce protein aggregate; and

measuring the quantity of protein aggregate in said cells, wherein a test compound which decreases the quantity of protein aggregate as compared to control cells is considered the compound which suppresses ataxin-1 aggregation.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein method further comprises:

dispersing the compound which suppresses ataxin-1 aggregation in a pharmaceutical carrier; and

administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound in the carrier to an individual having a neurodegenerative disorder.

22. As a composition of matter, the compound obtained by the method of claim 20.

23. A pharmacologically acceptable composition comprising:

the compound obtained by the method of claim 20; and

a pharmaceutical carrier.

24. A method of treating a patient with a neurodegenerative disorder, comprising the steps of:

preparing a therapeutically effective amount of a compound obtained by the method of claim 20; and

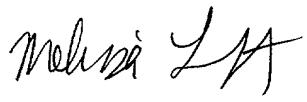
administering said therapeutically effective compound to said patient.

REMARKS

Support for new claims 11 and 13 are found in the specification on P9, L23-26; P41, L15-23; and original claim 4. Support for new claim 12 is found in the specification on P13, L19-22 and P12, L13-P13, L6. Support for new claim 14 is found in the specification on P12, L27-29; and P13, L19-22. Support for new claims 15 and 17 are found in the specification on P1, L15-31, and P11, L4-14. Support for new claim 16 is found in the specification on P13, L19-22 and P12, L13-P13, L6. Support for new claim 17 is found on P12, L14-P13, L6; and P13, L19-22. Support for new claim 18 is found on P12, L27-29. Support for new claim 19 is found on P12, L13-P13, L6. Support for new claims 20 and 22 are found in the specification on P13, L1-6 and P11, L4-14. Support for new claim 21 is found in the specification on P12, L14-P13, L6; and P13, L19-22. Support for new claim 22 is found in the specification on P2, L27-29 and P13, L19-22. Support for new claim 23 is found in the specification on P12, L13-P13, L6.

Applicants address fees in the Fee Transmittal filed herewith. However, if Applicants owe any other fees now or at any time during the prosecution of this application, please charge the deposit account of Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P., account number 06-2375, under Order No. 09804681, from which the undersigned is authorized to withdraw.

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa L. Sistrunk
Registration No. 45,579
Agent for Applicants

Date: June 19, 2001
Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.
1301 McKinney, Suite 5100
Houston, Texas 77010-3095
Telephone: (713) 651-3735